



# FACT SHEET

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, MANILA  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE: Office of the Attaché

The **Office of the U.S. Department of Justice Attaché** was established at the United States Embassy in Manila in 2003. The current Attaché is an experienced Federal prosecutor whose assignment is to support investigations and prosecutions by U.S. and Philippine law enforcement authorities. Among other agencies, the Attaché interacts with the Philippine Department of Justice, the Office of the Ombudsman, the Anti-Money Laundering Council, the Anti-Terrorism Council, the National Bureau of Investigation, and the Presidential Commission on Good Government, as well as various Philippine prosecutors throughout the country. The Attaché coordinates with Philippine officials at the early stages of criminal investigations in order to provide maximum U.S. support to Philippine prosecutions. The tools used by the Attaché include the U.S.-Philippine Extradition and Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties, as well as other provisions of U.S. law. The Attaché has regional responsibilities as well, performing similar functions for Singapore and Malaysia.

Examples of cases handled by the Attaché's office include:

- Extradition from the U.S. to the Philippines of Glen Dumlaog, Cesar Mancao, and Michael Ray Aquino in the Dacer-Corbato homicide case (2009-2011);
- Extradition from the Philippines to the United States of Abu Sayyaf Group member Madhatta Haipe for the kidnappings of Americans in Mindanao (2009);
- Return to the Philippines under the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty of \$132,000 forfeited by U.S. law enforcement in case of former General Jacinto Ligot (2011), as well as the return of \$100,000 forfeited by U.S. law enforcement in the case of former General Carlos Garcia (2012);
- Establishment of a trust fund in the U.S. for two minor girls in Southern Leyte who were sexually victimized in the Philippines by an American later convicted in the U.S. As part of the sentence imposed by the U.S. Court the defendant was ordered to pay money into the trust fund (2011);
- Testimony in the Sandiganbayan under the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty of two U.S. law enforcement officers in the trials of former generals Carlos Garcia and Jacinto Ligot (2007 and 2008); and
- Testimony in Los Angeles California under the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty by a Bureau of Immigration official in trial of Marvin Mercado for 8 murders that occurred in the U.S. which resulted in conviction (2011).



Ambassador Thomas hands a check to Ombudsman Morales for \$100,000 payable to the Republic of the Philippines.